REMARKS

The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121. Applicant was requested to elect one of three designated groups as briefly noted below:

- I. Claims 1-24, drawn to polynucleotides and means of expression, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1, 320.1 and 325 and class 536, subclass 23.5.
- II. Claims 25-37, and 43-47, drawn to polypeptides and methods of use, classified in class 530, subclass 350. and 514, subclass 2.
- III. Claims 39-42, drawn to antibodies and methods of generating them, classified in class 530, subclass 388.1 and 389.1.

In response to the Requirement for Restriction Election, Applicant elects Group II Claims 25-37, and 43-47 drawn to polypeptides and methods of use with traverse.

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement insofar as the restriction of claim 38 was omitted from a restriction group. Applicant requests clarification from the Office. For the purpose of this communication, Applicant shall assume claim 38 is included in the elected Group II claims in addition to 25-37, and 43-47.

Claims 1-24 and 39-42 are withdrawn from the case; however, Applicant reserves the right to pursue and prosecute these claims in divisional and continuing applications.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Patent Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6676.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Enclosures:

Response to Restriction Requirement (3 pages)

Petition and Fee for 1 Month Extension of Time (in duplicate)

Preliminary Amendment (13 pages)

Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)

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